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REMARKS

This is a fully and timely response to the final Office Action mailed May 3, 2005 and the subsequent Advisory Action of July 5, 2005. Reconsideration of the application in light of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

This amendment is a second after-final response and includes all the changes proposed in the first after-final amendment of June 20, 2005.

Allowable Subject Matter:

In the outstanding Advisory Action, responsive to the first after-final amendment of June 20, 2005, the Examiner indicates the allowance of claims 2, 3, 9, 48-50, 52-55 and 58. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the allowance of these claims.

The Advisory Action further indicates the presence of allowable subject matter in claims 45, 56 and 57. Again, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for this identification of allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, each of claims 45, 56 and 57 has been amended herein and rewritten as an independent claim including all the limitations of its former, respective base claim. Therefore, following entry of this amendment, claims 45, 56 and 57 should be in condition for immediate allowance based on the allowable subject matter identified in those claims by the Examiner.

Prior Art:

The Advisory Action further indicates that the prior art rejection is maintained as to claims 7, 8, 10, 12-14, 22, 23, 29, 36, 37 and 51. While Applicant continues to traverse the rejection of these claims for the reasons of record, to expedite the issuance of the allowed and

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allowable claims, all the rejected claims have been cancelled by the present amendment, leaving only those claims that the Examiner has indicated are allowed or allowable. Consequently, following entry of the present amendment, the application should be in condition for immediate allowance per the findings of the Examiner in the recent Advisory Action.

The claims cancelled herein and in previous actions are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicant reserves the right to file any number of divisional or continuation applications to the cancelled claims or to any other subject matter described in the present application.

Conclusion:

Entry and consideration of this amendment are proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 for at least the following reasons. The present amendment makes only those changes needed to place the application in condition for allowance based on allowable subject matter indicated by the Examiner. The amendment does not raise new issues requiring further search or consideration. Therefore, entry of the present amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 116 and is hereby requested.

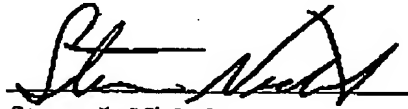
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For the foregoing reasons, the present application is thought to be clearly in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the application in light of these remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

DATE: 19 July 2005



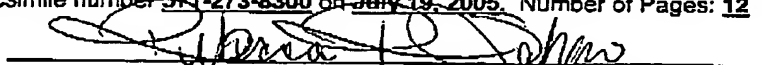
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office facsimile number ~~571-273-8300~~ on ~~July 19, 2005~~. Number of Pages: **12**


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